

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Amended once) A process for preparing a seeded dermal equivalent comprising:
 - providing a dermal equivalent, keratinocytes, and culture media having an air interface;
 - culturing said dermal equivalent in said culture media;
 - lifting said dermal equivalent to said air interface to provide a lifted dermal equivalent; and
 - seeding said dermal equivalent with said keratinocytes to provide a seeded dermal equivalent, and
 - culturing said seeded dermal equivalent at said air interface until said keratinocytes stratify.
3. (Amended once) The process of Claim 2, wherein said immortalized keratinocytes are NIKS (near-diploid immortalized keratinocytes) cells.
6. (Amended once) The process of Claim 4, wherein said fibroblasts are NHDF (Normal Human Dermal Fibroblast) cells.

Listing of the Claims

1. (Amended once) A process for preparing a seeded dermal equivalent comprising:
providing a dermal equivalent, keratinocytes, and culture media having an air interface;
culturing said dermal equivalent in said culture media;
lifting said dermal equivalent to said air interface to provide a lifted dermal equivalent; and
seeding said dermal equivalent with said keratinocytes to provide a seeded dermal equivalent, and
culturing said seeded dermal equivalent at said air interface until said keratinocytes stratify.
2. The process of Claim 1, wherein said keratinocytes are selected from the group consisting of primary human keratinocytes and immortalized human keratinocytes.
3. (Amended once) The process of Claim 2, wherein said immortalized keratinocytes are NIKS (near-diploid immortalized keratinocytes) cells.
4. The process of Claim 1, wherein said dermal equivalent comprises collagen and fibroblasts.
5. The process of Claim 4, wherein said collagen is rat tail tendon collagen.
6. (Amended once) The process of Claim 4, wherein said fibroblasts are NHDF (Normal Human Dermal Fibroblast) cells.
7. The process of Claim 1, wherein said lifting further comprises incubating said lifted dermal equivalent at said air interface for at least six hours prior to said seeding.
8. The process of Claim 1, wherein said lifting further comprises incubating said

lifted dermal equivalent at said air interface for at least twelve hours prior to said seeding.

9. The process of Claim 1, wherein said lifting further comprises incubating said lifted dermal equivalent at said air interface for at least eighteen hours prior to said seeding.

10. The process of Claim 1, wherein said lifting further comprises incubating said lifted dermal equivalent at said air interface for about 24 hours prior to said seeding.

11. The process of Claim 1, wherein said lifting further comprises incubating said lifted dermal equivalent at said air interface for about six hours to about 24 hours prior to said seeding.

12. The process of Claim 1, further comprising step e) incubating said seeded dermal skin equivalent under conditions such that a skin equivalent is formed.

13. The process of Claim 12, wherein said skin equivalent is stratified.

14. The process of Claim 12, wherein said skin equivalent is stratified into squamous epithelia.

15-63. Cancelled.